

McDonald's Statement.

Mr. Bassman—I ask the privilege, through the columns of your paper, to correct a false statement, put forth by the Covington "People's Friend," in relation to the encounter between Senator Hannegan and myself, and the previous difficulty that it led to.

I should not have taken any notice of the base label of the "Friend," were it not, that through the medium of exchanges, the article has had a wide circulation, and is calculated to prejudice the minds of those who have no knowledge of the difficulty, except what is drawn from that source, and who may be strangers to me. I hazard nothing in saying, that where the facts are known as they occurred, and where my character is familiar, no man will be found to condemn my course who is not influenced by Senator Hannegan and his particular friends.

I will now make a statement of the affair at Covington, on the 26th of October, ult., which no man can contradict, and tell the truth; and for the correctness of which, I pledge my honor.

I had been to Lodi, some 15 miles below Covington, and was returning home in company with Wm. Oskar, of Lodi. We stopped at Brown's hotel, in Covington, and it being after the usual dinner hour, we had spoken to the bar-keeper, Mr. Hertel, to have some prepared for us. When we entered the bar-room, there were several persons sitting around the fire; but none that I was acquainted with. A gentleman (whose name I have since learned is Hanna) was sitting by the fire. We had breakfasted together at Lodi that morning, and I remarked to him that I had overtaken him; and drawing a chair up sat down.

Shortly after, Senator Hannegan entered, and took a seat opposite me, and looked at me with that kind of a smile in his countenance which brought my mind vividly the former injuries I had received at the hands of him and his mob. I returned his look with interest, until his eyes fell. He then entered into conversation with this Mr. Hanna in relation to some matter which I paid no attention to. He retained his seat but a moment, when he remarked to Hanna, that "he would be ready to go as soon as he (Hanna) could." I do not know whether Mr. Hanna was sitting or standing at the time, as I paid no attention to him; but Hanna rose to his feet and stepped towards the door. I stood forward and confronted him. I told him "I owed him a whipping, and would now give it to him." Before the last words were spoken, I collared him, and threw him to the floor on his back. The moment he struck the door, he placed both hands over his face; and the first blow I struck him was on the back of his hands, while they were over his face. He withdrew his hands; and I had not struck him more than perhaps twice after that, until I was pulled off by Mr. Bunting, of New Orleans, as I learned the gentleman's name to be. I disengaged myself from this gentleman, and renewed the attack on Hannegan, who, in the meantime, had turned over, and was endeavoring to rise, when he partially succeeded in doing, I caught him by the collar and struck him about the head, and probably kicked him. I was immediately seized by the collar and skirt of the coat, and dragged loose from Hannegan, whom I kicked on the side of the head in the act. I was thrown with such force away from him, that in staggering back, I stumbled over a chair, and fell to the floor. By the time I had arisen, Hannegan was on his feet, going out of the door. I remarked, that "I did not think we would head a mob soon again." I did not kick him until all went away from him the first time; nor was Mr. Hannegan on his face, until I had been first pulled off him. He turned on his face while I was releasing myself from the man who held me—whom, as I have already said, I believe to be Mr. Bunting. After Senator Hannegan had left, I enquired who had pulled me off, and Mr. Bunting replied that it was him. I told him if he had known the circumstances he would not have done it.

At the solicitation of Mr. Brown, I started to take my team and leave the town, but Hannegan returning with his posse before I had time to do so, I passed up stairs, until, by the assistance of a friend, a horse was procured, on which I effected an escape.

The editor of the "Friend" designates me a "traitor," because I did not choose to trust myself to the tender mercies of a mob, headed by Senator Hannegan. I think the public, after a careful perusal of the affidavits furnished, will be slow to condemn me for that, at least; and that I did not seek my presence in any other capacity but that of a mob, is evident from the fact that, although I remained near three hours in Covington after the fight, no one attempted to obtain a warrant for my arrest.

If had been armed, I should have pursued a different course; but being unarmed, I well knew that I would stand a poor chance in the hands of such men as composed Senator Hannegan's body-guard—with whom such a thing as "fair play" is utterly unknown. I had a "taste of their quality" on a former occasion, and felt no great desire to renew my acquaintance.

The plangent editor of the "Friend" has been very profuse of his vocabulary of hard names in his behalf; in reply to which, I will only say, that I have no epithets to apply with any one; least of all, with him, whose highest boast is to hang on the skirts, and to the morbid appetites of such men as Senator Hannegan; and when they commit any act upon him, he is always ready to implicate a shield of falsehood and misrepresentation to screen their conduct. But, as he is so ready to brand others with the term *coward*, he doubtless thinks himself a brave man. If he wished to present indubitable proof of his assertions, he can have the trial, by placing us where he and I stand, in equal danger, that the public which he is so anxious to slight on the subject of my cowardice, can judge which of us will show the white feather.

In regard to the criminality of my conduct, I will say, in conclusion, that at the request of my friends, Mr. William Ostlund made an affidavit of the assault, upon which a warrant was issued by Samuel Colemen, Justice of the Peace, and a subpoena sent for Senator Hannegan, a copy of which, the officer (after making several unsuccessful attempts to see Senator Hannegan, and remaining some two or three hours in Covington) left at his residence. On the examination, I was fined for an assault and battery upon Hannegan, and paid it. Mr. Hannegan did not appear, nor make the attempt to have me recognized to court. I am ready to meet any charge that may be preferred against me at any time, in any place, and in any manner.

ZERKEL M. McDONALD.

ZUMMERMAN'S AFFIDAVIT.

I was present at the lock in Attica, in September, 1846, when the mob from Covington came up for the purpose of opening it. There were between two and three hundred persons in it. When I saw them coming, I, with two or three others, went down to the canal. When I arrived at the lock, there were ten or twelve men from Covington standing upon it. The main body were off on the common, some 50 yards or more from the lock. I saw Ezeckel McDonald come upon the lock, and go up to where these men from Covington were standing, and shake hands with Joseph Ristine, and others with whom he was acquainted.

He was perfectly friendly with them, and they appeared so when him. He sat down on the gate-head with Mr. Ristine, and commenced talking as friends usually do when they meet. In the meantime, Senator Hannegan was forming the main body, which was on the common, some 50 yards from the lock, into divisions, to surround it. The men whom he was forming, were all armed with clubs and stones. Hannegan divided them into two divisions, John Bodley heading one, and Hannegan the other. Bodley's division waded the canal below the lock, and came up on the towpath side. Hannegan's division crossed the towpath on the opposite side of the lock from Bodley, leaving a portion of his men at the lock. At the time these divisions surrounded the lock, there were no persons on it except these ten or twelve men from Covington, myself, McDonald, and three or four citizens of Attica. I kept perfectly safe, for I knew there would be no opposition to their opening the lock, and did not turn to leave the lock until the mob surrounded it. Immediately, as Hannegan and a part of his division came up to the head of the lock, and some of them knocked a man by the name of Harr into the canal, McDonald jumped up from where he had been sitting, talking with Ristine, and ran to help him out, when he (McDonald) was struck by John McManamy with his fist, but the blow did not knock him down. McDonald then tried to get out of the crowd; he got clear of McManamy, and in running through the crowd, he was struck by a number of the mob with clubs. He had got to the edge of the water, about half way along the lock embankment, when he was struck by one with a club, and fell into the water, on his face. The person who struck McDonald, when he fell, turned immediately after striking him, and mingled with the crowd; nor was there any per-

son oil-ed to strike him after he fell. He fell, to all appearance, dead. There was not one of the mob who offered to take him out of the water, or to render him any assistance whatever. At the time when he was first attacked, I was about thirty feet from him. When he fell into the water, I ran to him as soon as I could. When I got to him, he was still lying on his face in the water, unable to move. I took hold of his collar, and raised his head out of the water, lifting him partly up, when Mr. Roland, of Williamsport, came and assisted me up the bank with him; when he was raised, I was about thirty feet from him. The man who was upon the ground with him did not appear to be aware of what had happened to him. By this time, McDonald's brother, and some others of Attica, who had heard of his being injured, came down and took him away. Hannegan's division attacked and beat a boatman severely, just after they had beaten McDonald. The boatman's name was Vanvanderburg. I attempted to leave the lock about the same time that McDonald was taken away, by crossing over the tow-path, but was stopped by Mr. Strokey, who had a stone tied in his handkerchief, which he drew on me, and others with drawn clubs. They said I should not pass. I turned, and after some time, was allowed to leave. The fighting was all done by the division Hannegan commanded in person; and so far from trying to restrain them from committing the outrages they did, he urged them on by words and actions all the time they were beating McDonald and the boatman.

I was called before the Grand Jury some two weeks after this outrage took place at the lock, to give evidence in relation to an affray that took place in our town between two men by the names of Gilliland and Donnelly. After I had told what I knew of that affair, it was asked if I knew of any fighting taking place at the time the company went from Covington to the Attack lock. I gave them the same statement in substance that I have now given. The Grand Jury said it was not necessary to give the names of any of the persons who were at the lock; and I did not except of McManamy and one or two others.

PHILIP ZUMMERMAN.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 22nd day of November, 1847.

SAMUEL COLEMAN, J. P. [L. S.]

In addition to the above, there are several affidavits, six of which generally corroborate the statements of Zimmerman, relative to the affair at the Attack lock last year. They all testify that Mr. Hannegan was at the head of one of the divisions of the "posse" or "mob"; whichever it was; that great excitement was manifested by all, and that blows were inflicted upon McDonald. No one expresses the belief, however, that Mr. Hannegan struck those blows. On the contrary, their infliction is charged positively upon others, and Hannegan is said to have been at a distance from McDonald; two state not nearer than 40 feet. Violent exclamations are imputed to Mr. H. by some of the affiants; and they evidently, now, at the time of the occurrence, regarded Mr. H. as a leader of the "mob."

That great excitement and exasperation existed, and that outrages were perpetrated, is evident. It is also evident that McDonald was brutally assaulted, and that redress was for the injury inflicted upon him. It is likely that he is satisfied in his own mind that Mr. Hannegan aided and abetted the assault, notwithstanding the testimony to the contrary. All these, and collateral considerations should be taken into view, in making up an impartial verdict, so far as McDonald and Hannegan are concerned; and we are willing to leave the making up of that verdict to the scholars in each.

The offices to be created are those of Trustee; one for each Township, and one for each district; county Superintendent and State Superintendent. The office of School Commissioner is abolished, and its functions assigned to the county Auditor and Treasurer—so also the Boards of three Township and district trustees are dispensed with, and the single new Trustee is ex-officio Clerk and Treasurer.

The Boards of Education are three: a County Board, consisting of the county Superintendent and five men appointed by him, to meet quarterly to examine Teachers;—a Congressional District Board to meet annually, consisting of the State Superintendent together with the Superintendents of all the counties in the District;—a State Board consisting of the State Superintendent and members of the District Boards; one delegate from each Board; meetings to be annual at Indianapolis in October. These Boards have committed to them in various prescribed degrees the *duties* of examining teachers and books, methods of instruction and plans of school houses, organizations of schools and institutions for training teachers; and the *authority* to devise and recommend whatever they judge important for the good of the cause. Records are to be kept and reports are to be made which will bring before the Legislature and the people all appropriate facts and suggestions worthy of regard, pertaining to the subject of schools.

The State Superintendent has the supervision of all the schools, school funds and school officers in the State. He is to visit each county and deliver lectures on school education, receive reports from the county superintendents, and render reports to the State Auditor and Treasurer, and to the Legislature.

The County Superintendent has the supervision of all the school master and funds in his county. He is to visit the schools and give lectures in each township, to assist in preparing, and will receive the reports from the township and district officers and teachers, and make reports to his county auditor and the State Superintendent.

A teacher makes a detailed report to the district Trustee; the Trustee reports to the county superintendent; he reports to his county auditor and to the State Superintendent, and the last named officer reports to the Auditor and Treasurer of State and to the Legislature.

Officers created by the act, or others required by it to perform any duty, are liable to a penalty for knowingly neglecting to perform its requirements of them or for violating its provisions in disbursements.

Appeals may be taken from the decisions of inferior officers or boards to the higher.

The people in cities, incorporated towns, and some others, are allowed to organize a school system for themselves if they choose, so as to separate the schools of different sexes or grades of learning, into distinct schools or departments, under a special supervision of their own, but not subject to the general provisions of the law, and entitled to the benefits of the general system.

By the resolution of the Convention in May, it is recommended to the Legislature to submit the law to the people; according the bill provides for an election in March, at which, those in favor of the proposed law, are to vote on their tickets "Free Schools"—those opposed are to write on their tickets "No Free Schools."

If the people approve the act, the Governor is to proclaim it as a law of the State.

The Presidency.

FULTONSVILLE, IND., Dec. 10, 1847.

Mr. Seated:—I have often thought that Mr. Clay would make a public declaration "per se" in order that his friends might know which end of the ball he had divorced him from his old friends, his "friends" were packed up a few weeks ago and put on board of a low black schooner called Abolitionist, to cruise in the Mexican Gulf, for twelve hundred thousand lives of men, the brilliant achievement which Paris has just admired. It is every way a gain to the little ex-sovereign. Nobody was ever likely to hear of him as one of the series of Grand Dukes of Lucia. Every body will hear of him as the man that sold his throne and made a good trade of it. As a government, Lucia has to him a nest of petty troubous, with a perpetual gnawing of assassination. Its territory has but thirty jungles square, and its population one hundred and forty-five thousand.

The weight of the bell may be taken at 134 tons. Its dimensions are as follows:

Diameter at mouth.....8 ft. 7 in.

Height to shoulder.....5 11

Diameter at shoulder.....4 8

The thickest part, or sound bow, is 8 inches.

The tone of the bell, which is grand, deep, round and sonorous, is upon the key F below the line—base clef of the pianoforte scale.

The inscription is in Roman capitals:—

NEGOITIANT DUM VENIO OMNES

SPIRITU LAUDET POMPEI ANNO

DOMINI 1847 FUNDATUR MARIONAPOLIS

29th FEB. P. IX. PONTIFICATUS 1st REGNI

VICTORIE BRITANNICARUM 10th

EX. PHISIO. MECATORUM

AGRICOLA. ARTIFICIALE

MARIONAPOLITANENSIS D. NO.

And, upon the lip—

CAROLUS. ET. GEORGIUS MEARS. LONDINI.

FEUER.

The bell is ornamental, and has cast upon it the effigies of the Virgin and St. John the Baptist; besides a medallion, illustrative of agriculture, manufacture and commerce.

It may be interesting to state the comparative sizes and weights of the great bell for Montreal.

The weight of the bell may be taken at 134 tons.

Its dimensions are as follows:

Diameter at mouth.....8 ft. 7 in.

Height to shoulder.....5 11

Diameter at shoulder.....4 8

The thickest part, or sound bow, is 8 inches.

The tone of the bell, which is grand, deep, round and sonorous, is upon the key F below the line—base clef of the pianoforte scale.

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NEGOITIANT DUM VENIO OMNES

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VICTORIE BRITANNICARUM 10th

EX. PHISIO. MECATORUM

AGRICOLA. ARTIFICIALE

MARIONAPOLITANENSIS D. NO.

And, upon the lip—

CAROLUS. ET. GEORGIUS MEARS. LONDINI.

FEUER.

The bell has ornaments, the pommel, the top, the

bell, the clapper, the clapper guard, the clapper

ring, the clapper chain, the clapper chain ring, the

clapper chain link, the clapper chain link ring,

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